THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) A Working Group under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister, Karnataka, was set up in the Excise Minister's Conference held on 4-11-1993. The terms of reference of the Working Group were:-(i) to harmonise the State Policies for sale and distribution of country liquor with decontrol; (ii) to review the Acts and Rules in the States to bring them in line with the objectives of decontrol; (iii) to rationalise Acts and Rules to ensure that potable alcohol production is regulated and controlled in a unfirm manner in all States; (iv) to remove all hindrances to market forces operating freely in respect of molasses and alcohol (v) to suggest interim measures, if any; (vi) to suggest measures to balance supply of rectified sprit to deficit States and also Government supply of country liquor to licensed vendors and chemicals and pharmaceuticals producers; and (vii) To suggest measures for checking diversion of molasses for potable alcohol production.

The recommendations of the Group are under examination.

Setting up of new fertilizer plants during the Eighth Plan

326. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up some fertilizer plants in the country during the Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the number of fertilizer plants proposed to be set up;

(c) the location of these plants;

(d) whether Government propose to set up one plant in undivided Koraput district;

(e) if so, the site selected therefor; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a)to (c) As part of the plan to increase the production of fertilizers during the Eighth Five Year Plan, sanction has been accorded for doubling of the capacity of Vijaipur plant (Distt. Guna, Madhya Pradesh) of National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) and Aonla plant (Distt. Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh) of Indian Farmers Fertilizers Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO). Gas allocation has also been indicated for one medium sized gas-based ammonia-urea plant based on gas from Krishna-Godavari basin in Andhra Pradesh.

(d) to (f) No such proposal is under consideration. .. ..

Chemicals Units of Orissa

327. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleasd to state:

(a) the names of tne places in Orissa where chemicals units exist;

(b) whether suh units are microscopic in number; and

(c) if so, the details of steps taken to set up chemicals units in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) There are approximately 295 small and medium scale Chemicals Units in Orissa State. Some of the locations of these units are Cuttack, Ganjam, Bhubaneshwar, Rourkela, Sambalpur, Puri, Mayurbhanj, Koraput, Keonjhar and Brajrajnagar.

Since a large part of the chemicals industry has been delicensed, individual decisions to make investments in this sector depend upon availability of infrastructure, raw material and market.

Import of Fertilizers

328. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state: